MARVEL

CIVIL WAR II

CHOOSING SIDES 3

KATE BISHOP · J. JONAH JAMESON · NICK FURY

MARVEL

003 | VARIANT EDITION

CIVIL WAR II

CHOOSING SIDES

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CIVIL WAR II

CHOOSING SIDES

EARTH'S HEROES PREVENTED AN ATTACK FROM THANOS THANKS TO A NEW INHUMAN NAMED ULYSSES, WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE.

IRON MAN WARNED AGAINST USING ULYSSES' POWERS AGAIN, BELIEVING THAT THE FUTURE MUST BE ALLOWED TO TAKE ITS COURSE. CAPTAIN MARVEL DISAGREED, ARGUING THAT SAVING LIVES IS WORTH THE RISK.

BUT ULYSSES' NEXT VISION WAS A BIG ONE – A VISION OF THE HULK DESTROYING EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE. CAPTAIN MARVEL AND IRON MAN MADE A DEAL TO CONFRONT BRUCE BANNER, BUT BOTH WERE SHOCKED WHEN HAWKEYE TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASSASSINATE BANNER.

AS TENSIONS RISE, EACH HERO WILL HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE:
PROTECT THE FUTURE OR CHANGE THE FUTURE?

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"POST PROLOGUE" PART THREE

PREVIOUSLY: NICK FURY WAS SENT TO STOP A HYDRA CELL THAT, ACCORDING TO A PREMONITION FROM ULYSSES, WOULD END S.H.E.I.L.D. BUT HE QUICKLY LEARNED THAT THE TRUE THREAT LIES WITHIN S.H.E.I.L.D. ITSELF. TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS, FURY FAKED HIS OWN DEATH AND CONFRONTED A WEALTHY S.H.I.E.L.D. DONOR, WHO GAVE FURY INFORMATION ON WHERE TO FIND THE CELL'S LEADER.

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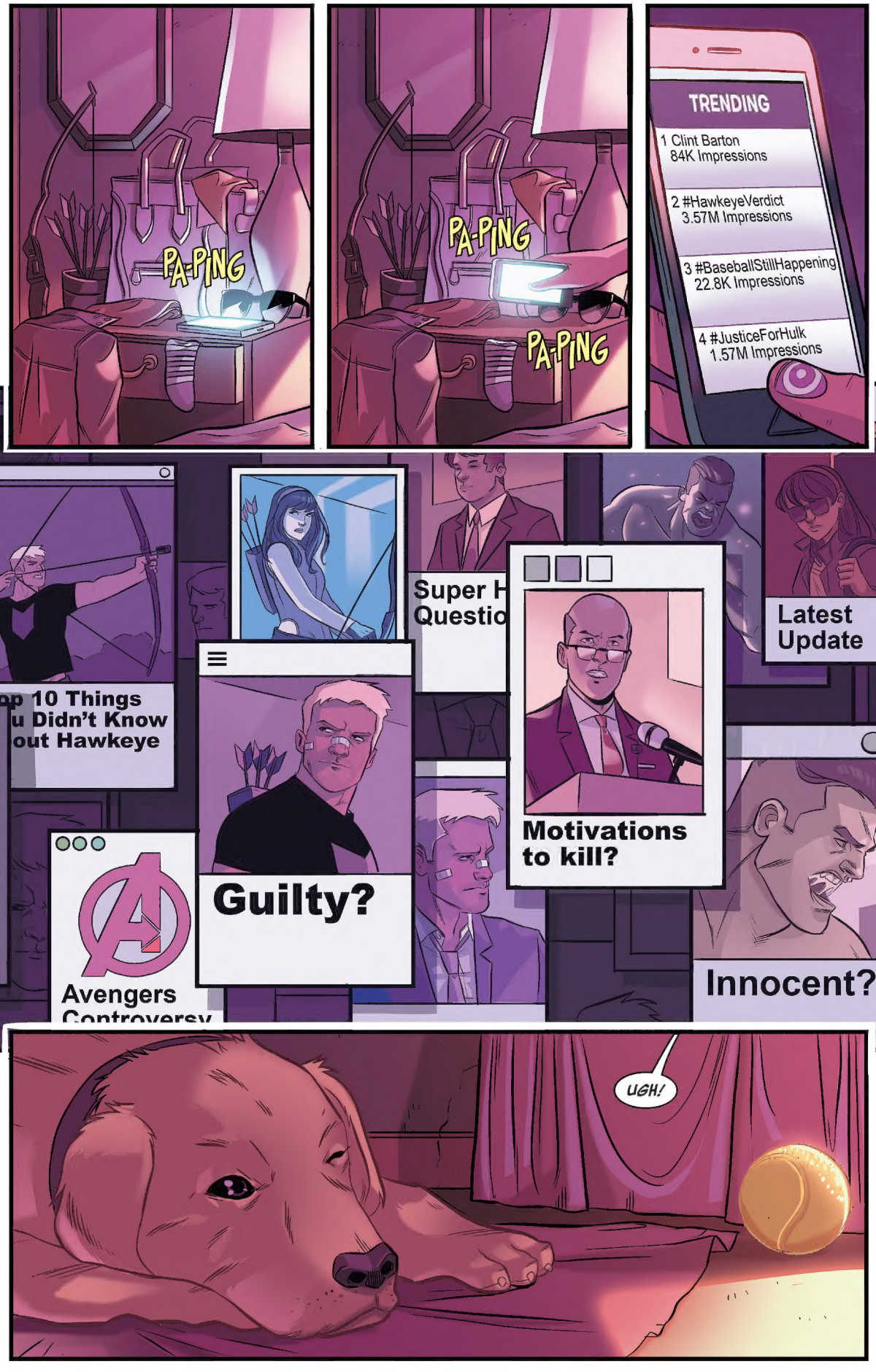
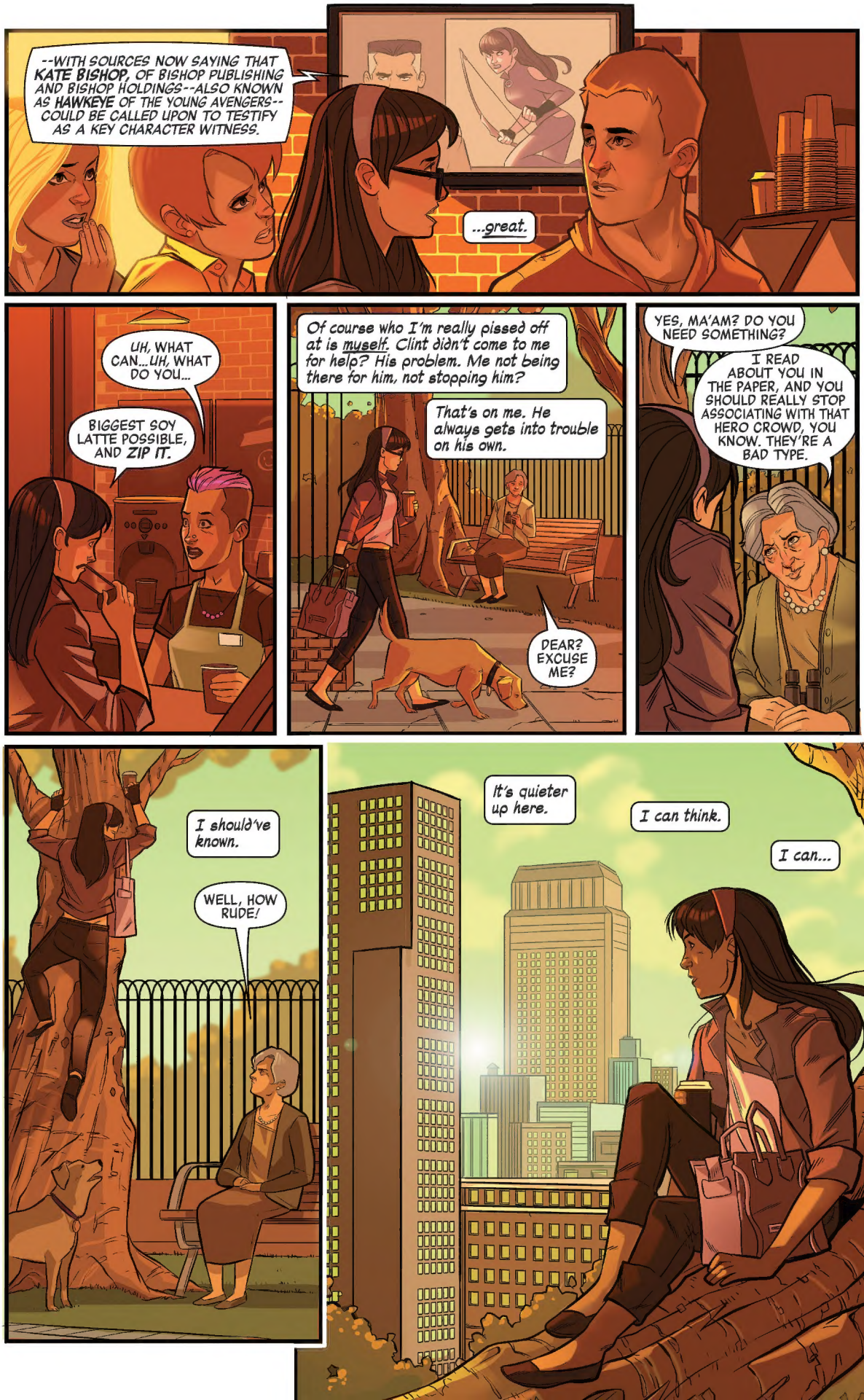

PA-PING
PA-PING
PA-PING
TRENDING
1 Clint Barton
84K Impressions
2 #HawkeyeVerdict
3.57M Impressions
3 #BaseballStillHappening
22.8K Impressions
4 #JusticeForHulk
1.57M Impressions
Top 10 Things
u Didn't Know
out Hawkeye
Super H
Questio
Latest
Update
Guilty?
Motivations
to kill?
Avengers
Innocent?
UGH!

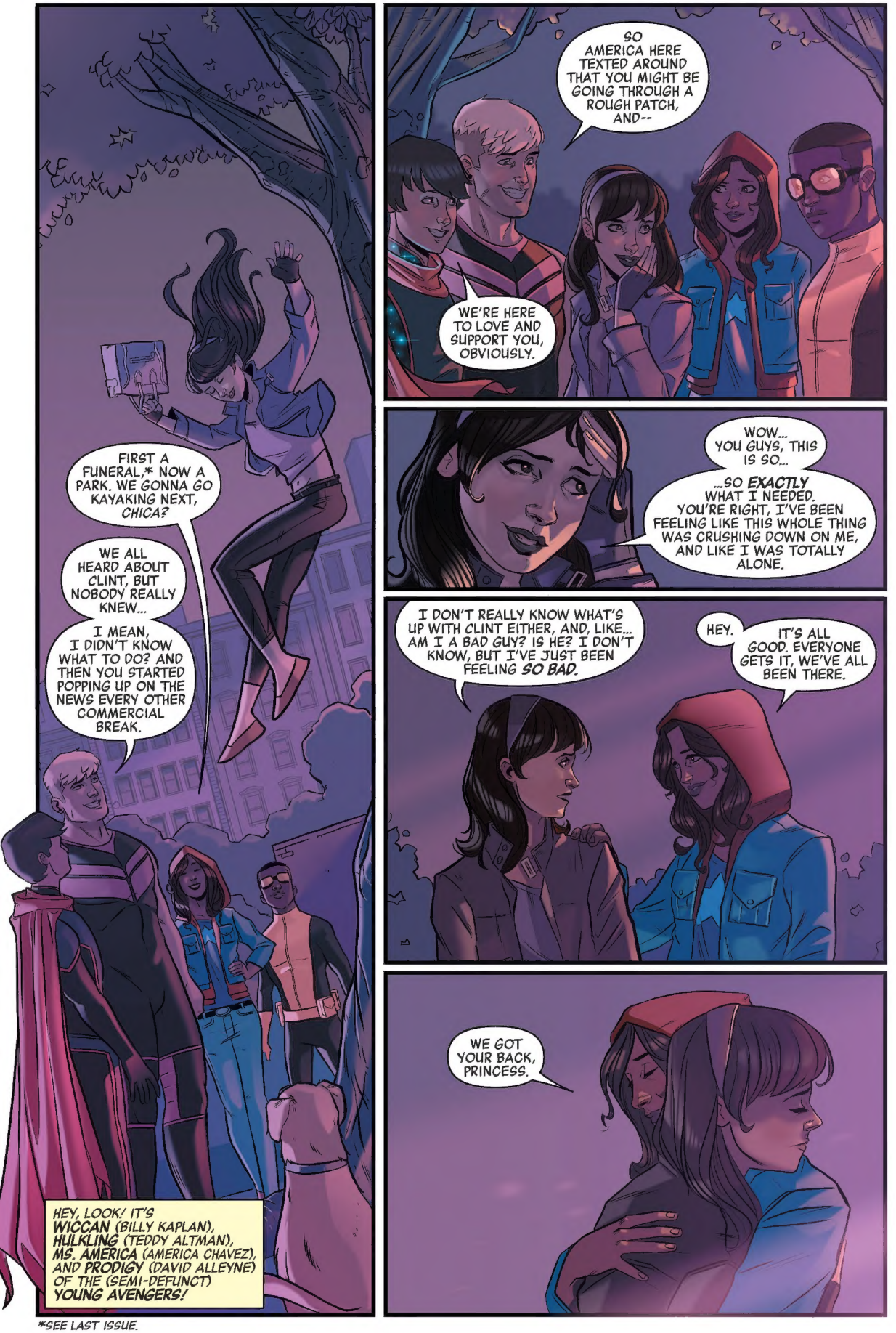
The internet is hell. Everyone's so quick to judge.
Not that Clint's actions don't look really bad on the surface, but...he's a hero. You'd think people could spare a smidgen of respect. Like, one smidge.
I'm sure he had a reason for all this. A reason that made sense.
And I sure wish I knew what it freaking was.
Ugh, Clint.
He always does this. Tries to shield me. Pays me all the right lip service in a stitch, but when it comes down to it?
He thinks I'm someone to be protected.
And he's not even the only one. Everyone, every single grammatically tragic opinion-piece rando commenter has a place for me in their minds. A mold for me to fit.
Socialite, advocate, fashion addict, role model...
THE HIGH-PROFILE NATURE OF THIS CASE CONTINUES TO INVOLVE A CAST OF CELEBRITIES--


--WITH SOURCES NOW SAYING THAT KATE BISHOP, OF BISHOP PUBLISHING AND BISHOP HOLDINGS--ALSO KNOWN AS HAWKEYE OF THE YOUNG AVENGERS--COULD BE CALLED UPON TO TESTIFY AS A KEY CHARACTER WITNESS.
...great.
UH, WHAT CAN...UH, WHAT DO YOU...
BIGGEST SOY LATTE POSSIBLE, AND ZIP IT.
Of course who I'm really pissed off at is myself. Clint didn't come to me for help? His problem. Me not being there for him, not stopping him?
That's on me. He always gets into trouble on his own.
DEAR? EXCUSE ME?
YES, MA'AM? DO YOU NEED SOMETHING?
I READ ABOUT YOU IN THE PAPER, AND YOU SHOULD REALLY STOP ASSOCIATING WITH THAT HERO CROWD, YOU KNOW. THEY'RE A BAD TYPE.
I should've known.
WELL, HOW RUDE!
It's quieter up here.
I can think.
I can...

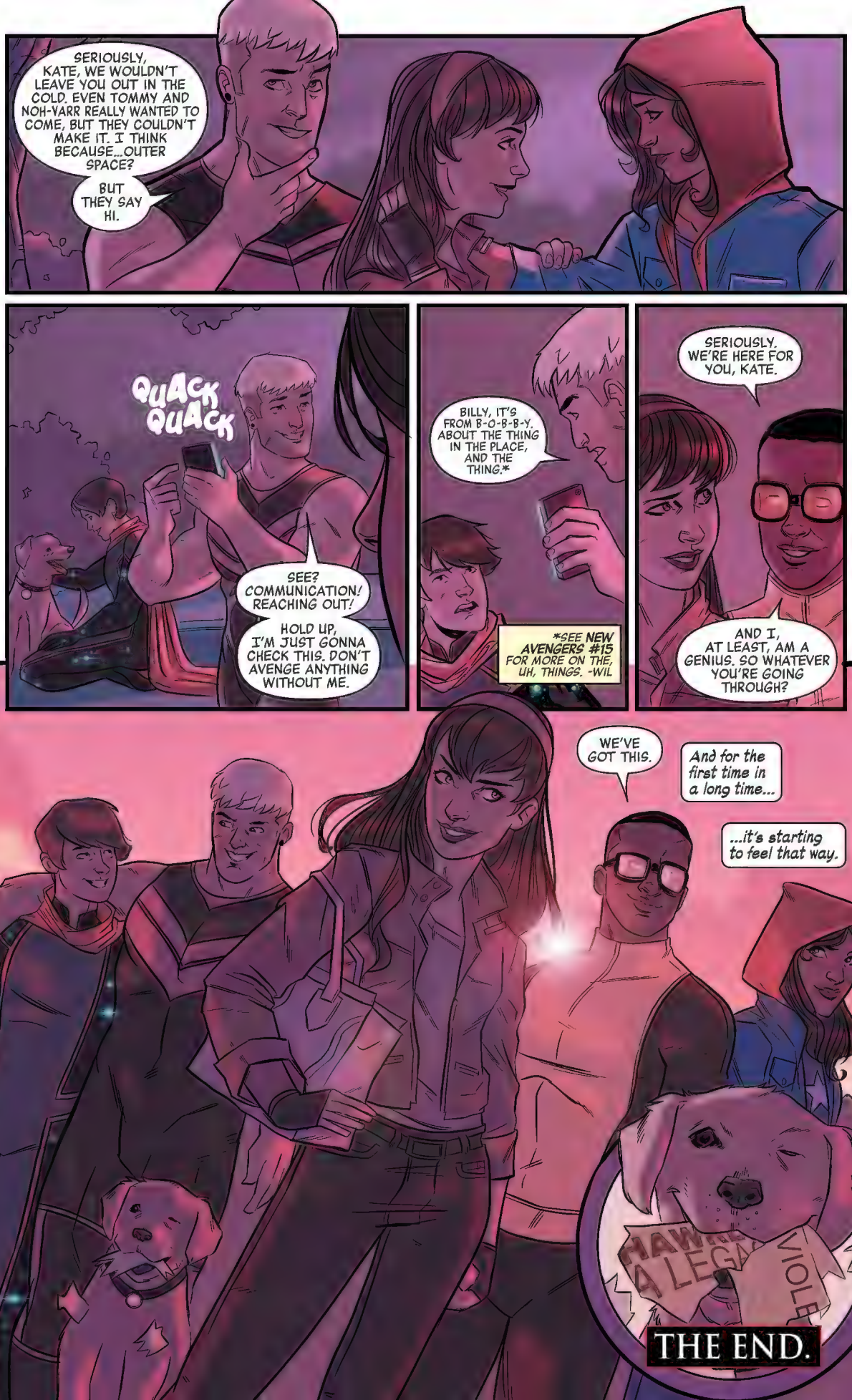
...hear trouble.
THUD
UNF!
C'MON, MAN, YOU GONNA CRY? GO ON AND CRY.
SERIOUSLY, BACK OFF!
AUGH!
THOK!
FFFF-UGH!
HEY, IT'S "HAWKEYE"!
YEAH, "HAWKEYE," WHAT GIVES?
THOUGHT YOU WERE LOCKED UP, "HAWKEYE."
THANKS, HAWKEYE-GIRL! CAN I GET A SELFIE WITH YOU?
HARD PASS.

So, yeah, I feel bad for Clint... about Clint. But it's so typical!
PA-PING PA-PING
HELLO, SIR, DO WE HAVE A PROBLEM HERE?
OFFICER, YEAH! THESE TWO KIDS TRIED TO MUG ME.
I get to solve this problem after the fact, and all by myself. The Fabulous Hawkeye! No, the other one. Non-murder type. She's flying solo, kids.
BUT THEN HAWKEYE DROPPED OUT OF A TREE AND BEAT THEM UP.
SURE, SURE-- HE'S IN JAIL, PAL, BUT COME MAKE A STATEMENT, WHY DON'T YOU.
YOU BEEN DRINKING? NO? ALL RIGHT.
HAWKEYE
A LEGACY OF VIOLENCE?
Clint Barton's shocking decision to tur
on one of his own has done more tha
shake the Avengers' foundations. Once
again, a public debate over the agency
allowed to this confederation of
super-powered beings by international
governments is in full effect.
Some public officials are already calling
Hawkeye a traitor, or even a plant, but
there has been courtside speculation
that the accused's defense will try to
mount a potentially
of the archer's actions as yet another act
of vigilantism for the
PA-PING PA-PING

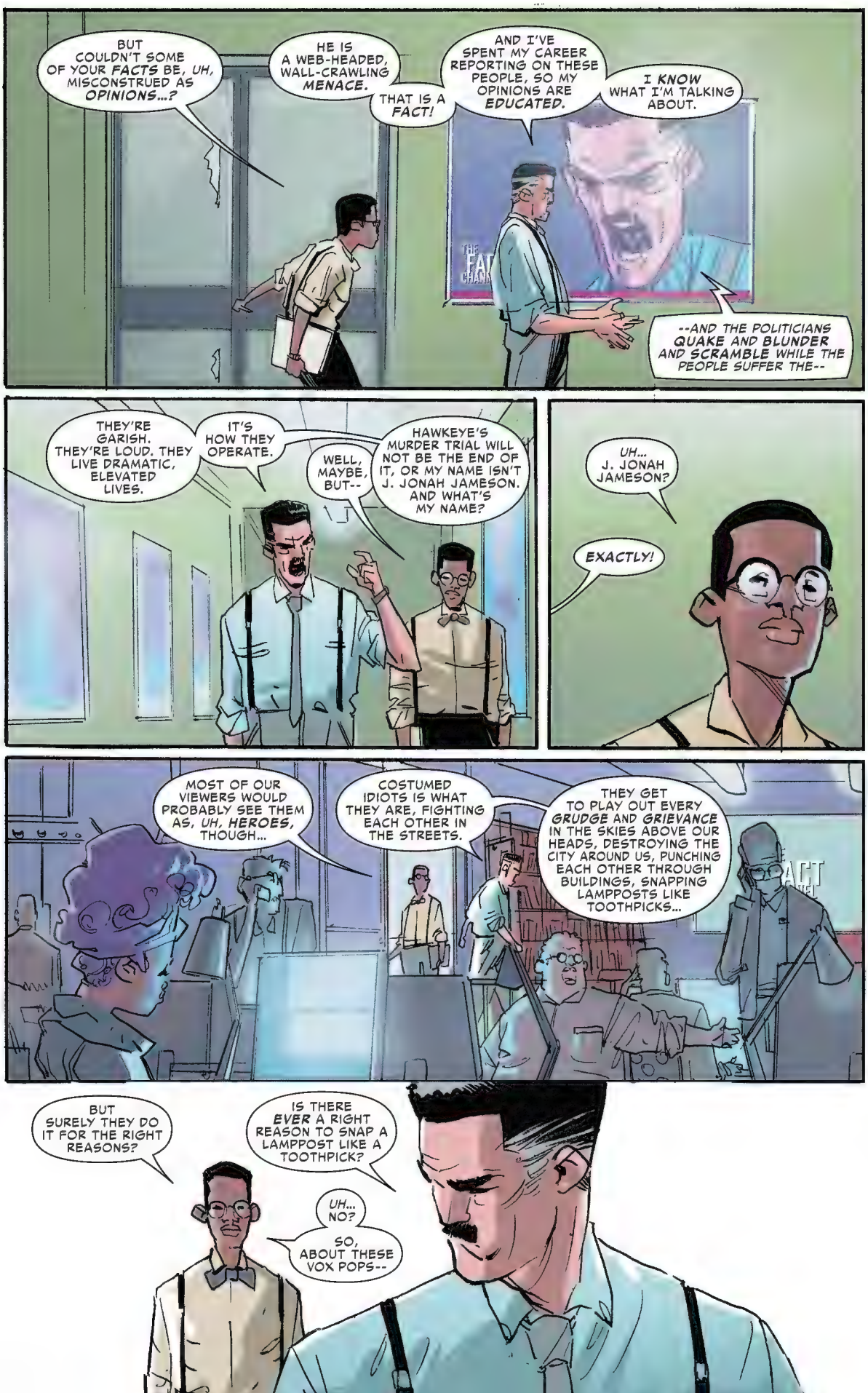
I don't want to see what anyone's saying about me. I don't want to know. I'm tired of all this. I didn't even do anything!
PA-PING
That's the whole problem, really.
I didn't do anything.
Clint.
THUK
Oh, you are kidding me. What, creep, you want a selfie so bad--
HEY!
I SAW YOU POST A PIC OF YOUR MANI THIS MORNING, KATE, SO I KNOW YOU HAVE TIME TO CHECK YOUR MESSAGES!
THIS AMAZING NEW TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP CONNECT YOU TO THE WORLD!
BILLY? TEDDY? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
CHECKING TO SEE HOW YOUR SO-CALLED LIFE IS GOING, CLAIRE DANES.
DO YOU HAVE A GOOD VIEW OF YOUR INNER ANGST-SCAPE UP THERE?
WHO'S CLAIRE DANES?

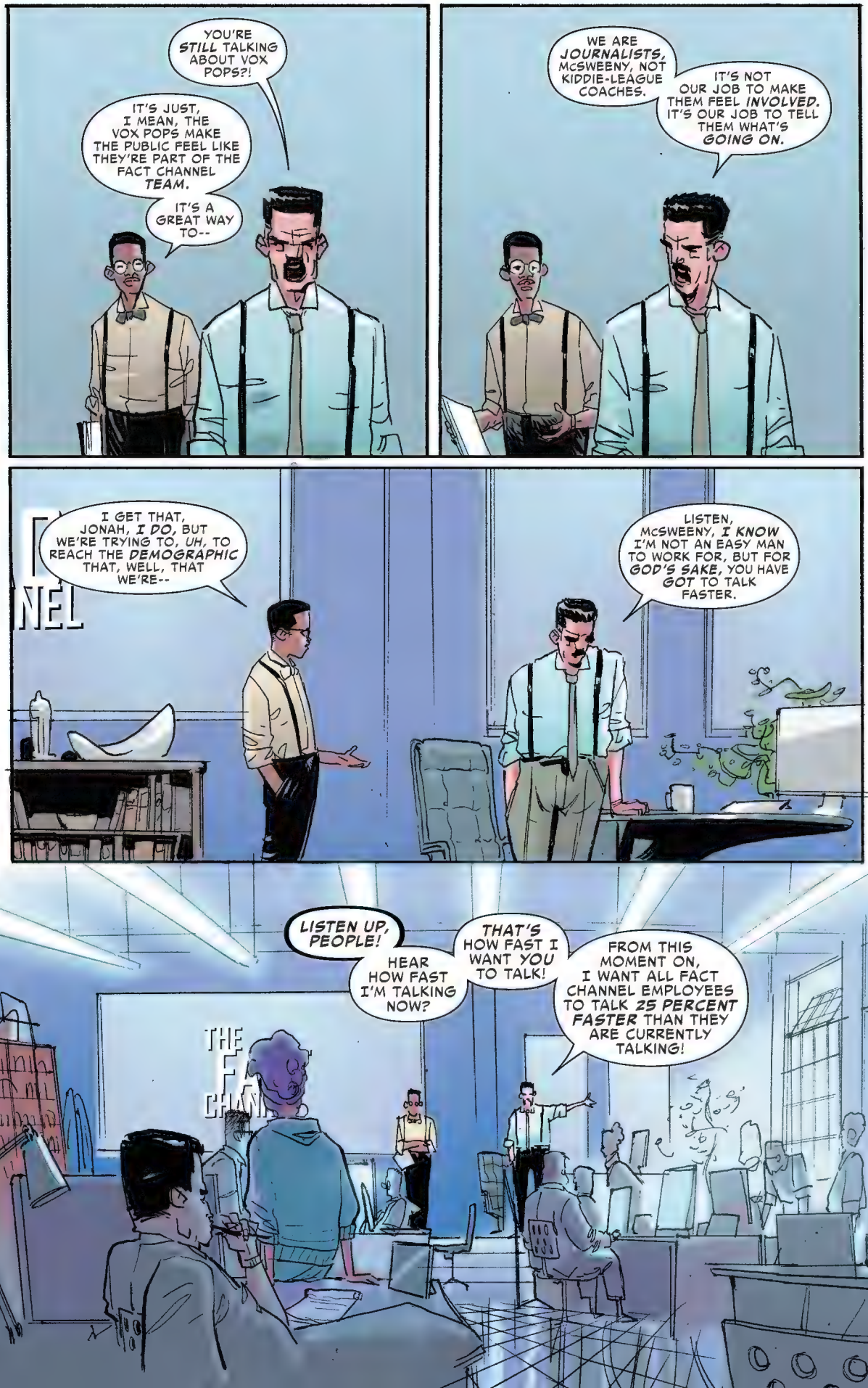

HEY, LOOK! IT'S WICCAN (BILLY KAPLAN), HULKLING (TEDDY ALTMAN), MS. AMERICA (AMERICA CHAVEZ), AND PRODIGY (DAVID ALLEYNE) OF THE (SEMI-DEFUNCT) YOUNG AVENGERS!
FIRST A FUNERAL,* NOW A PARK. WE GONNA GO KAYAKING NEXT, CHICA?
WE ALL HEARD ABOUT CLINT, BUT NOBODY REALLY KNEW...
I MEAN, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO? AND THEN YOU STARTED POPPING UP ON THE NEWS EVERY OTHER COMMERCIAL BREAK.
SO AMERICA HERE TEXTED AROUND THAT YOU MIGHT BE GOING THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH, AND--
WE'RE HERE TO LOVE AND SUPPORT YOU, OBVIOUSLY.
WOW... YOU GUYS, THIS IS SO...
...SO EXACTLY WHAT I NEEDED. YOU'RE RIGHT, I'VE BEEN FEELING LIKE THIS WHOLE THING WAS CRUSHING DOWN ON ME, AND LIKE I WAS TOTALLY ALONE.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT'S UP WITH CLINT EITHER, AND, LIKE... AM I A BAD GUY? IS HE? I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'VE JUST BEEN FEELING SO BAD.
HEY.
IT'S ALL GOOD. EVERYONE GETS IT, WE'VE ALL BEEN THERE.
WE GOT YOUR BACK, PRINCESS.

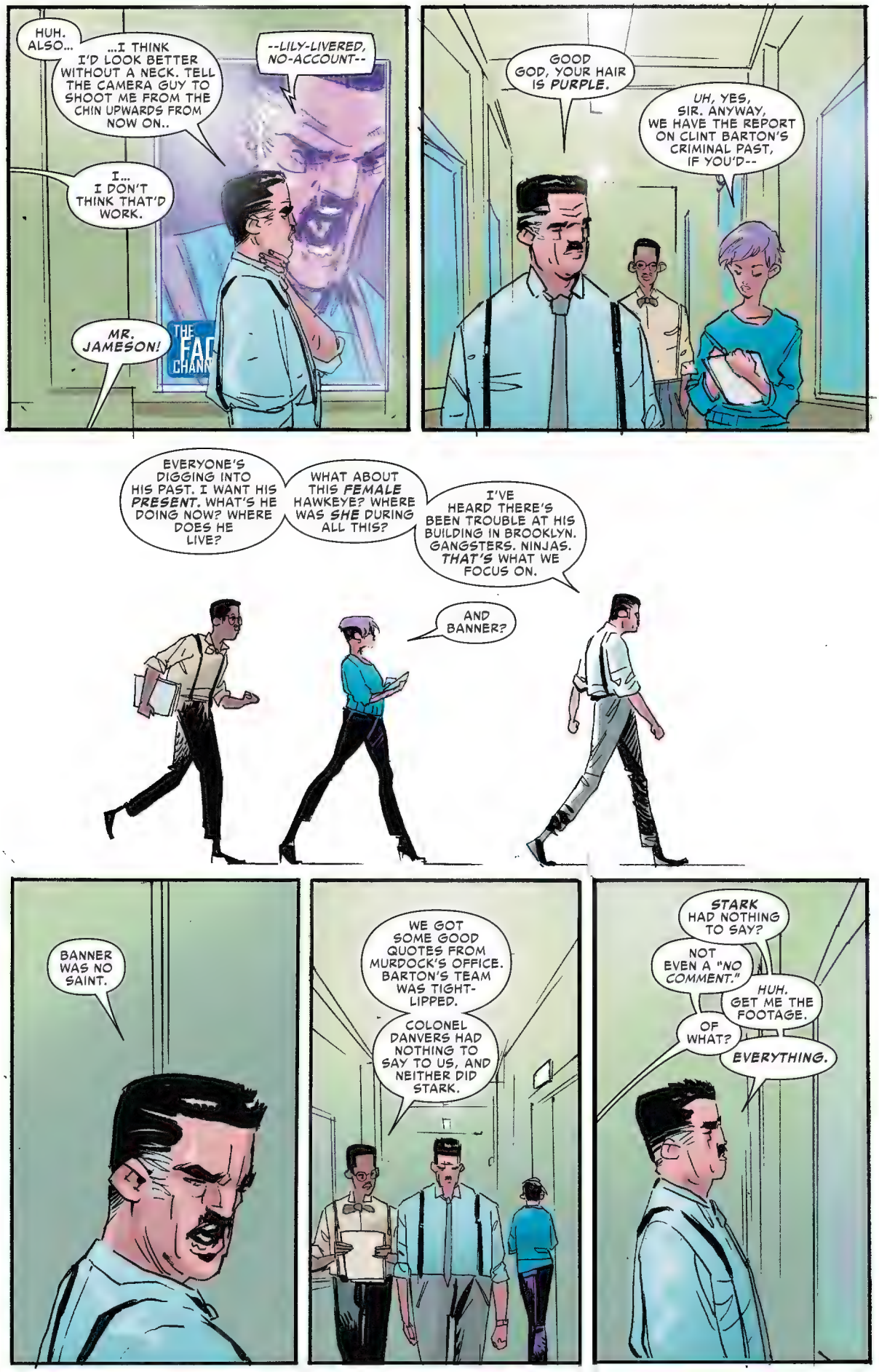
*SEE LAST ISSUE.


SERIOUSLY, KATE, WE WOULDN'T LEAVE YOU OUT IN THE COLD. EVEN TOMMY AND NOH-VARR REALLY WANTED TO COME, BUT THEY COULDN'T MAKE IT. I THINK BECAUSE...OUTER SPACE?
BUT THEY SAY HI.
QUACK QUACK
SEE? COMMUNICATION! REACHING OUT!
HOLD UP, I'M JUST GONNA CHECK THIS. DON'T AVENGE ANYTHING WITHOUT ME.
BILLY, IT'S FROM B-O-B-B-Y. ABOUT THE THING IN THE PLACE, AND THE THING.*
*SEE NEW AVENGERS #15 FOR MORE ON THE, UH, THINGS. -WIL
SERIOUSLY. WE'RE HERE FOR YOU, KATE.
AND I, AT LEAST, AM A GENIUS. SO WHATEVER YOU'RE GOING THROUGH?
WE'VE GOT THIS.
And for the first time in a long time...
...it's starting to feel that way.
THE END.

IT'S MURDER. PLAIN AND SIMPLE.
HAWKEYE PREVENTED A CATASTROPHE. I'M NOT SAYING BANNER WAS A BAD GUY, BUT THE HULK--
YOU DO NOT CONDEMN SOMEONE FOR SOMETHING THEY HAVEN'T DONE. THAT'S NOT HOW LIFE WORKS.
IT'S THE WHOLE "KILLING BABY HITLER" THING, ISN'T IT?
THEY ORCHESTRATED A SELF-FULFILLING PROPHECY IS WHAT THEY DID.
MOVE!
I WOULDN'T KILL BABY HITLER, BUT I'D, LIKE, PUT HIM IN A BOX OR SOMETHING.
THEY WENT AFTER HIM. THEY THREATENED HIM. THEY KILLED HIM. SIMPLE AS--
THEY STOPPED HIM FROM HURTING ANYONE. THAT'S THEIR JOB.
VOX POPS?
VOX POPS, McSWEENY?
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT A FAN, JONAH, BUT VOX POPS ARE, WELL, THEY'RE THE OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE ON THE STREET.
MURDER
SELF-DEFENSE
THEY'RE THE ILL-INFORMED OPINIONS OF THE MISINFORMED MASSES!
WE'RE NOT THE OPINION CHANNEL, McSWEENY. WE'RE THE FACT CHANNEL!


BUT COULDN'T SOME OF YOUR FACTS BE, UH, MISCONSTRUED AS OPINIONS...?
HE IS A WEB-HEADED, WALL-CRAWLING MENACE.
THAT IS A FACT!
AND I'VE SPENT MY CAREER REPORTING ON THESE PEOPLE, SO MY OPINIONS ARE EDUCATED.
I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
--AND THE POLITICIANS QUAKE AND BLUNDER AND SCRAMBLE WHILE THE PEOPLE SUFFER THE--
THEY'RE GARISH. THEY'RE LOUD. THEY LIVE DRAMATIC, ELEVATED LIVES.
IT'S HOW THEY OPERATE.
WELL, MAYBE, BUT--
HAWKEYE'S MURDER TRIAL WILL NOT BE THE END OF IT, OR MY NAME ISN'T J. JONAH JAMESON. AND WHAT'S MY NAME?
UH... J. JONAH JAMESON?
EXACTLY!
MOST OF OUR VIEWERS WOULD PROBABLY SEE THEM AS, UH, HEROES, THOUGH...
COSTUMED IDIOTS IS WHAT THEY ARE, FIGHTING EACH OTHER IN THE STREETS.
THEY GET TO PLAY OUT EVERY GRUDGE AND GRIEVANCE IN THE SKIES ABOVE OUR HEADS, DESTROYING THE CITY AROUND US, PUNCHING EACH OTHER THROUGH BUILDINGS, SNAPPING LAMPPOSTS LIKE TOOTHPICKS...
BUT SURELY THEY DO IT FOR THE RIGHT REASONS?
IS THERE EVER A RIGHT REASON TO SNAP A LAMPPOST LIKE A TOOTHPICK?
UH... NO?
SO, ABOUT THESE VOX POPS--


YOU'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT VOX POPS?!
IT'S JUST, I MEAN, THE VOX POPS MAKE THE PUBLIC FEEL LIKE THEY'RE PART OF THE FACT CHANNEL TEAM.
IT'S A GREAT WAY TO--
WE ARE JOURNALISTS, McSWEENY, NOT KIDDIE-LEAGUE COACHES.
IT'S NOT OUR JOB TO MAKE THEM FEEL INVOLVED. IT'S OUR JOB TO TELL THEM WHAT'S GOING ON.
I GET THAT, JONAH, I DO, BUT WE'RE TRYING TO, UH, TO REACH THE DEMOGRAPHIC THAT, WELL, THAT WE'RE--
LISTEN, McSWEENY, I KNOW I'M NOT AN EASY MAN TO WORK FOR, BUT FOR GOD'S SAKE, YOU HAVE GOT TO TALK FASTER.
LISTEN UP, PEOPLE!
HEAR HOW FAST I'M TALKING NOW?
THAT'S HOW FAST I WANT YOU TO TALK!
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, I WANT ALL FACT CHANNEL EMPLOYEES TO TALK 25 PERCENT FASTER THAN THEY ARE CURRENTLY TALKING!

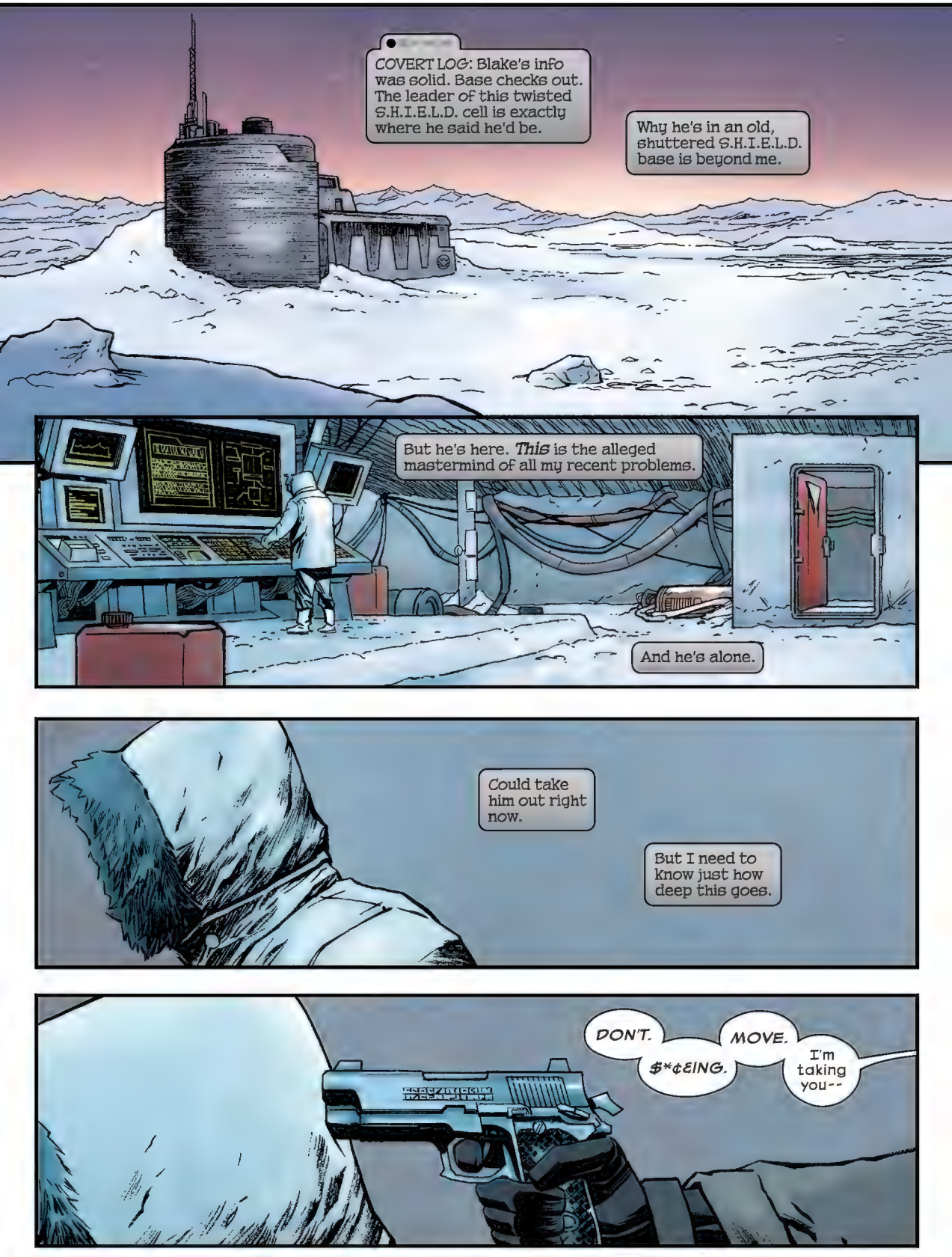

HUH. ALSO...
...I THINK I'D LOOK BETTER WITHOUT A NECK. TELL THE CAMERA GUY TO SHOOT ME FROM THE CHIN UPWARDS FROM NOW ON..
--LILY-LIVERED, NO-ACCOUNT--
I... I DON'T THINK THAT'D WORK.
MR. JAMESON!
THE FAC CHANN
GOOD GOD, YOUR HAIR IS PURPLE.
UH, YES, SIR. ANYWAY, WE HAVE THE REPORT ON CLINT BARTON'S CRIMINAL PAST, IF YOU'D--
EVERYONE'S DIGGING INTO HIS PAST. I WANT HIS PRESENT. WHAT'S HE DOING NOW? WHERE DOES HE LIVE?
WHAT ABOUT THIS FEMALE HAWKEYE? WHERE WAS SHE DURING ALL THIS?
I'VE HEARD THERE'S BEEN TROUBLE AT HIS BUILDING IN BROOKLYN. GANGSTERS. NINJAS. THAT'S WHAT WE FOCUS ON.
AND BANNER?
BANNER WAS NO SAINT.
WE GOT SOME GOOD QUOTES FROM MURDOCK'S OFFICE. BARTON'S TEAM WAS TIGHT-LIPPED.
COLONEL DANVERS HAD NOTHING TO SAY TO US, AND NEITHER DID STARK.
STARK HAD NOTHING TO SAY?
NOT EVEN A "NO COMMENT."
HUH. GET ME THE FOOTAGE.
OF WHAT?
EVERYTHING.

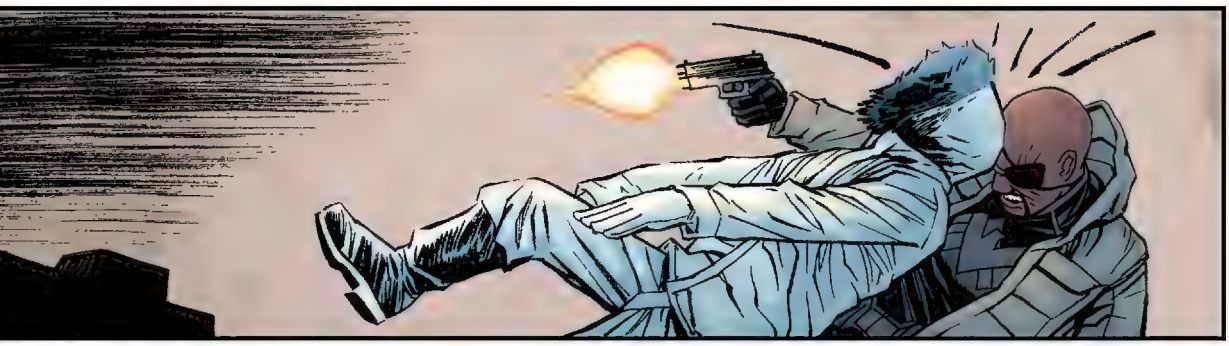
MR. JAMESON, LOLA ASKED ME TO DELIVER THESE HARD COPIES. I THINK SHE'S AFRAID OF YOU.
IDIOTS.
SIR?
IDIOTS, THE LOT OF THEM.
CNN, FOX, NBC...TRADING ON SENSATIONALISM AT THE EXPENSE OF CLARITY.
"THE TRIAL OF THE CENTURY," THEY'RE CALLING IT. AVENGER VERSUS AVENGER.
THEY HAVE NO IDEA.
I DON'T GET IT.
YOU'RE A SMART GIRL, ANALOG. YOU THINK THIS IS IT?
YOU THINK A COURT CASE IS ALL THIS'LL BE? LOOK AT STARK. HAVE YOU EVER SEEN HIM LIKE THIS?
UM, I DON'T...
THIS HAS BEEN BUILDING.
THIS ULYSSES KID, TELLING THE FUTURE, SENDING CAPTAIN MARVEL THIS WAY AND THAT. IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED.
YOU THINK IT'LL GO FURTHER?
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY STOPPING IT.
THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE, THEY'RE JUST... TRAPPED.
TRAPPED?

THEY'RE OUR HEROES, CINDY.
THEY PUT ON THE MASK, TAKE UP THE NAME, AND THEY'RE HEROES. THEY PROTECT US. WE DON'T ASK THEM TO DO IT, BUT THEY DO IT ANYWAY.
IT TAKES A CERTAIN KIND OF PERSON TO DO THAT. I COULDN'T DO IT. COULD YOU?
WELL, I--*
A CERTAIN KIND OF PERSON, LIKE I SAID.
BUT THE MOMENT THEY BECOME OUR PROTECTORS, THEY'RE TRAPPED. BECAUSE WE'LL NEVER LET THEM FORGET WHAT WE EXPECT FROM THEM.
*SHE CAN! IN SILK! --ALANNA
SO THIS IS...THIS IS OUR FAULT?
TURN ON THE TV. GO ONLINE. PICK UP A NEWSPAPER.
WE HATE THEM. WE LOVE THEM. WE WORSHIP THEM.
WE CONDEMN THEM.
HELL, MAYBE WE'RE THE ONES WHO ELEVATE THEM. MAYBE WE FORCE THEM TO LIVE LIKE THIS BECAUSE WE NEED THEM TO LIVE LIKE THIS.
MAYBE THE ONLY REASON THEY EXIST IS BECAUSE WE CAN'T SOLVE OUR OWN PROBLEMS.
ALSO GALACTUS.
MOTIVATIONS TO KILL
Page 3
FACE QUESTIONING
Page 6
DAILY BUGLE
HERO? KILLER?
AND NOW LOOK.
THEY'RE BACK AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS AND WE WON'T GIVE THEM ONE MOMENT TO CONSIDER THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT THEY'RE ABOUT TO DO.
McSWEENY!

JONAH?
THIS IS GOING TO EXPLODE.
I WANT OUR CAMERA TRUCKS THERE WHEN IT HAPPENS. THE MOMENT EITHER SIDE HOLDS A PRESS CONFERENCE, I WANT OUR PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.
NO ONE GETS A BLURRY SHOT OF ANYTHING, YOU UNDERSTAND?
AND, UM, THE VOX POPS...?
THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET SCARY.
I GUESS IT WOULDN'T HURT TO LET PEOPLE THINK THEY'RE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER.
YES, SIR.
GO HOME, ANALOG. YOU LOOK TIRED.
AND ARE YOU GOING HOME, SIR?
NAW. SOMEONE HAS TO BE HERE WHEN IT ALL GOES WRONG.
WHICH IT DOES.
EVERY DAMN TIME...
THE END.

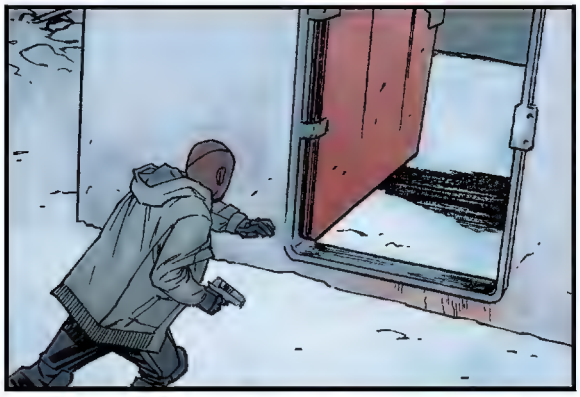
S.H.I.E.L.D. BASE (ULU).
ALASKA. 05:55 HRS.

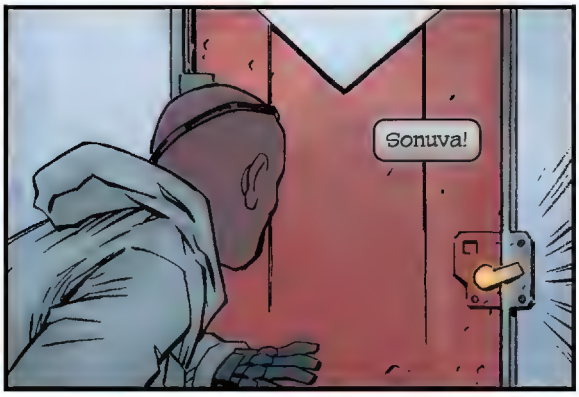

COVERT LOG: Blake's info was solid. Base checks out. The leader of this twisted S.H.I.E.L.D. cell is exactly where he said he'd be.
Why he's in an old, shuttered S.H.I.E.L.D. base is beyond me.
But he's here. *This* is the alleged mastermind of all my recent problems.
And he's alone.
Could take him out right now.
But I need to know just how deep this goes.
DON'T.
MOVE.
$*¢£ING.
I'm taking you--



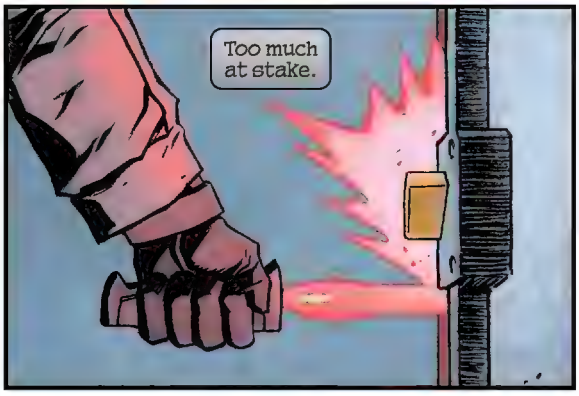
Damn...he moves fast.

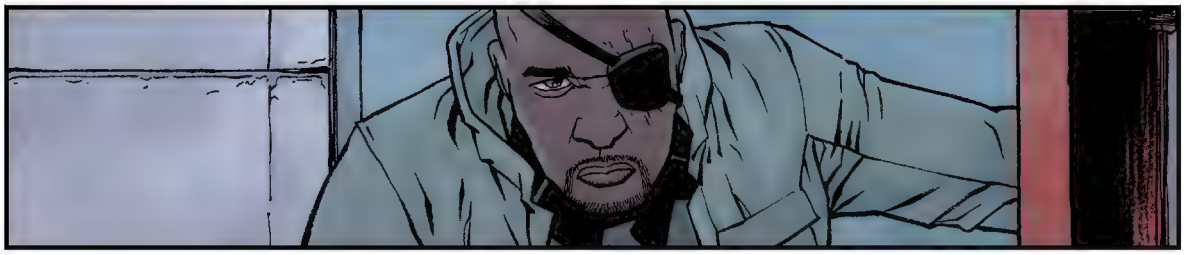
Too fast!

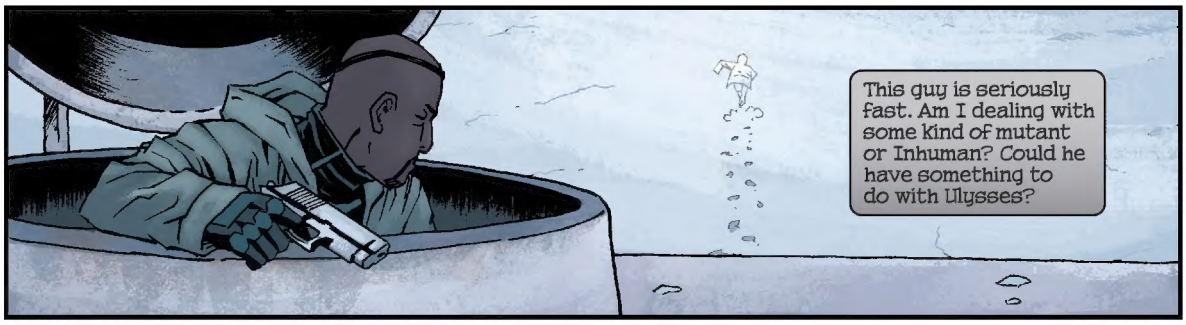



Sonuva!

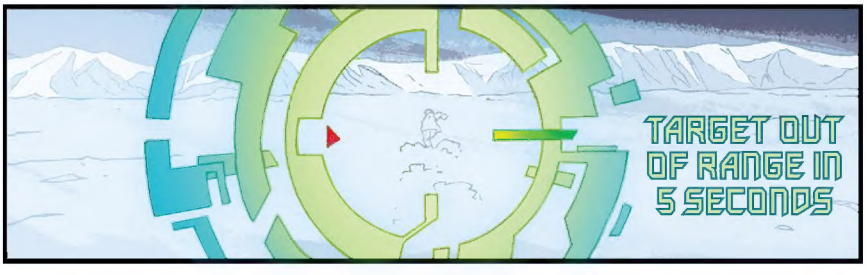
Don't have time for this child's play.

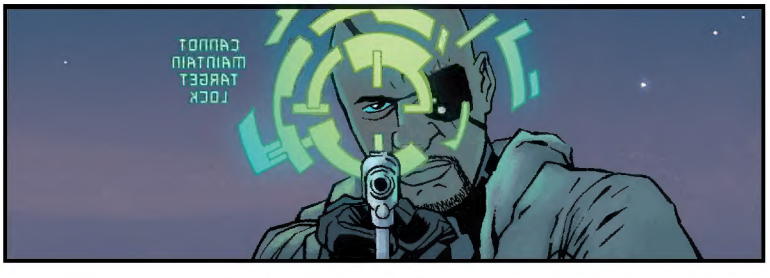

Too much at stake.




This guy is seriously fast. Am I dealing with some kind of mutant or Inhuman? Could he have something to do with Ulysses?

Doesn't matter. I tried to take him in. Now I've got no choice but to take him out.


TARGET OUT OF RANGE IN 5 SECONDS


CANNOT MAINTAIN TARGET LOCK

TARGET LOCK

This suit injects adrenaline and beta blockers into my bloodstream when I activate Kill Mode. Enhances my strength, speed...
...and accuracy.
Gave me that edge I needed to take the--
No...
There's no way around this...
I've failed.
...

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT:

CIVIL WAR II

CHOOSING SIDES 4

THE PUNISHER · POWER PACK · NICK FURY